

REMARKS

The election of species office action mailed March 12, 2009, has been carefully reviewed. The claims in the application are now claims 2, 5, 6, 9 and 10 only, the other claims having been deleted without prejudice to applicants' rights to pursue those or similar in a divisional application without any penalty whatsoever, applicants in such a case relying on Sections 121, 120 and 119.

Acknowledgement by the PTO of the receipt of applicants' papers filed under Section 119 is noted.

The PTO has required an election between "species" I directed to a method for transferring a glucosyl group to a polyalcohol with a trehalose phosphorylase to act on glucose and a polyalcohol, and "species" II directed a method for transferring a glucosyl group to a derivative of glucose having a C-6 hydroxyl group bound to a saccharide with a trehalose phosphorylase to act on glucose and on a polyalcohol.

In view of cancellation of claims above and amendment of claim 2, applicants elect a method for transferring glucosyl residue to a glucuronic acid and/or a salt thereof by allowing trehalose phosphorylase to act on (1)

glucuronic acid and/or a salt thereof and (2) a glucosyl donor of beta-D-glucose-1-phosphate, a salt thereof, or trehalose. All the remaining claims read on this "species".

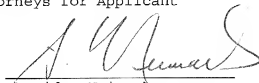
The Office Action states that claims 1, 2 and 4-10 correspond to the designated species I. Applicants believe, however, that the method defined in claim 2 does not correspond to species I. As indicated above, in view of the amendments made above, all the remaining claims are directed to a method for transferring a glucosyl residue to glucuronic acid and/or a salt thereof, and a process for producing glucosyl-transferred glucuronic acid and/or a salt thereof or composition comprising the same.

Applicants now respectfully await the results of a first examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.
Attorneys for Applicant

By



Sheridan Neimark
Registration No. 20,520

SN:jnj
Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528
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